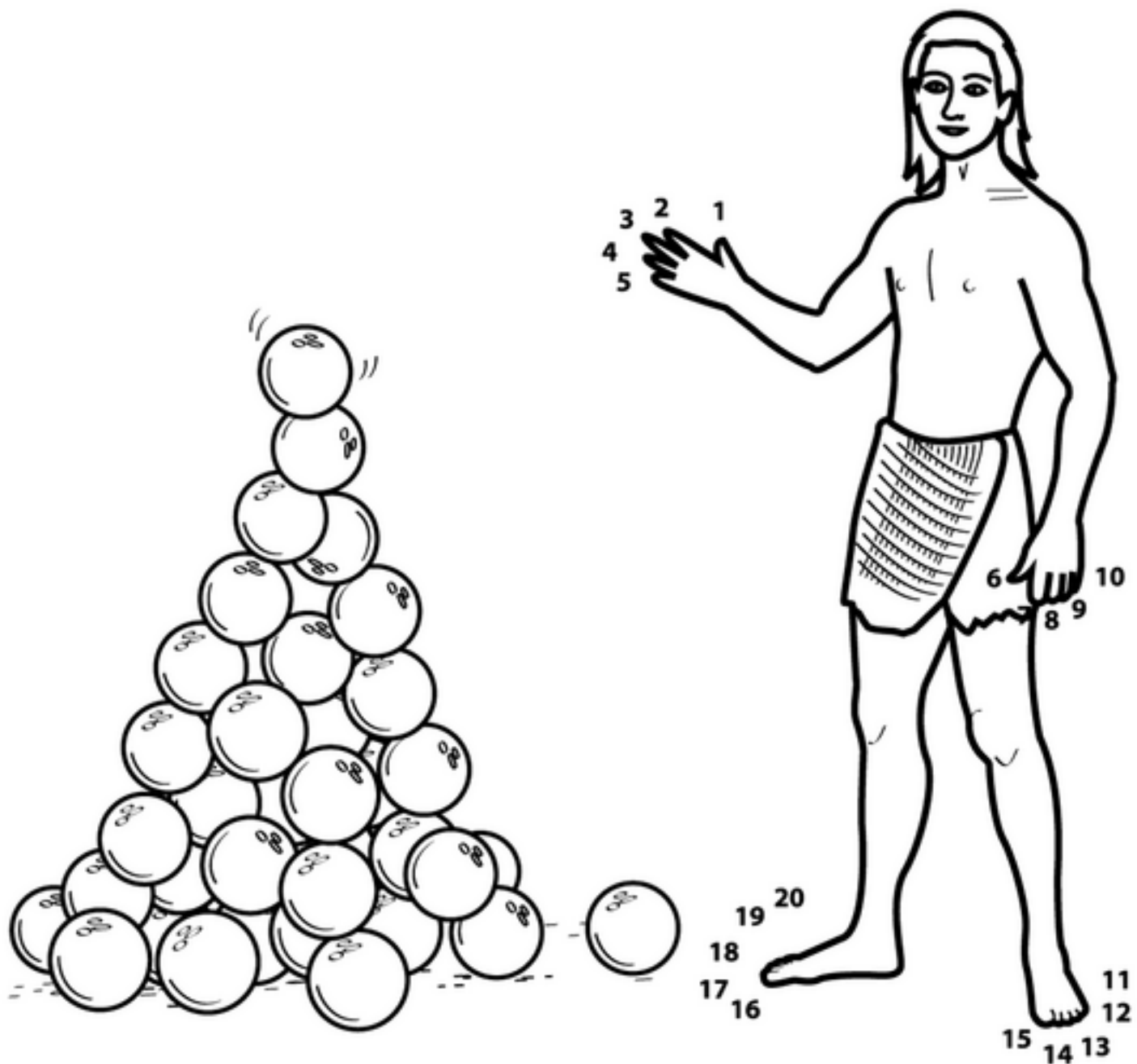
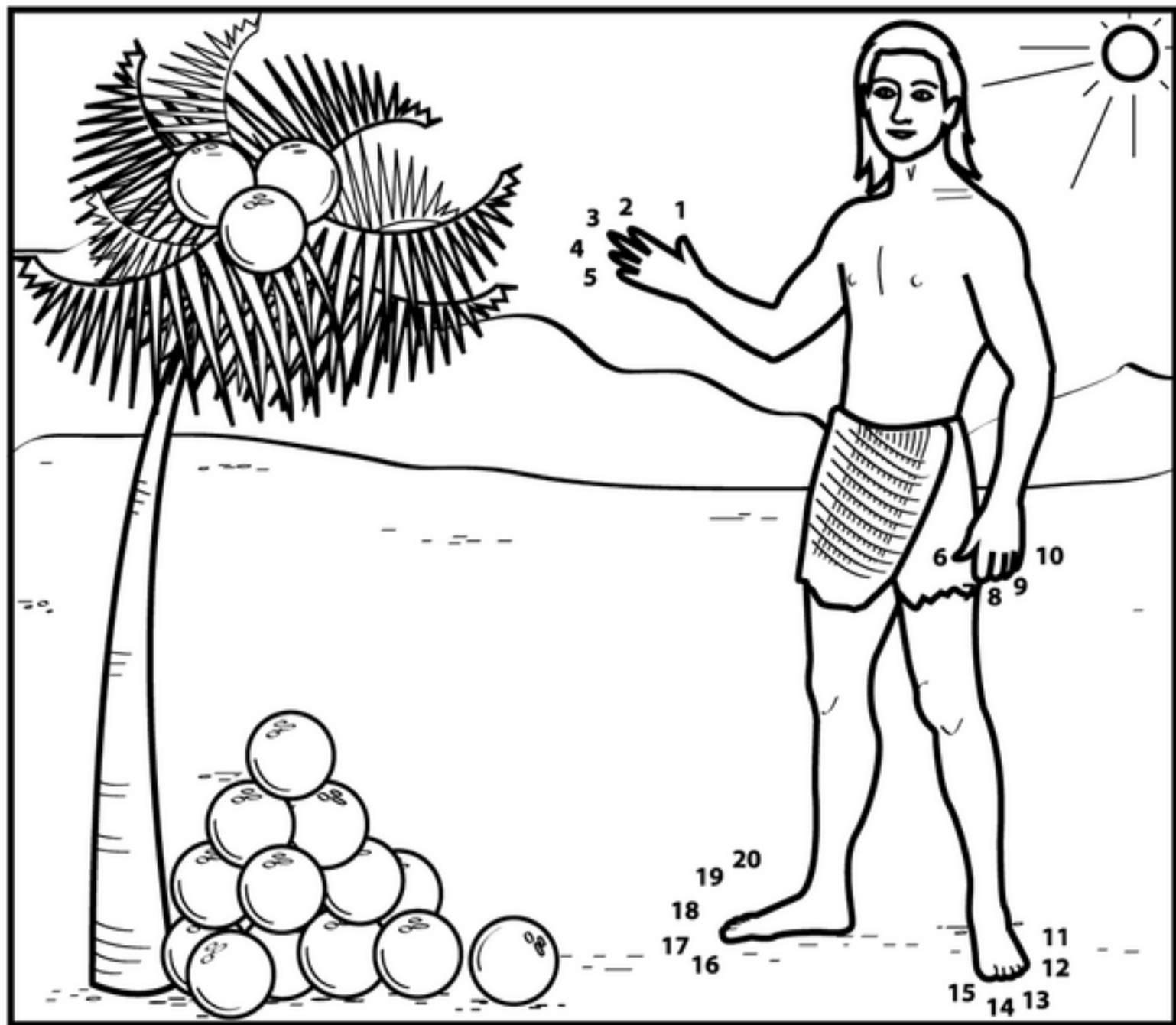


# A Brief History of Mathematics





Where did our numbers come from? How did we learn to count?

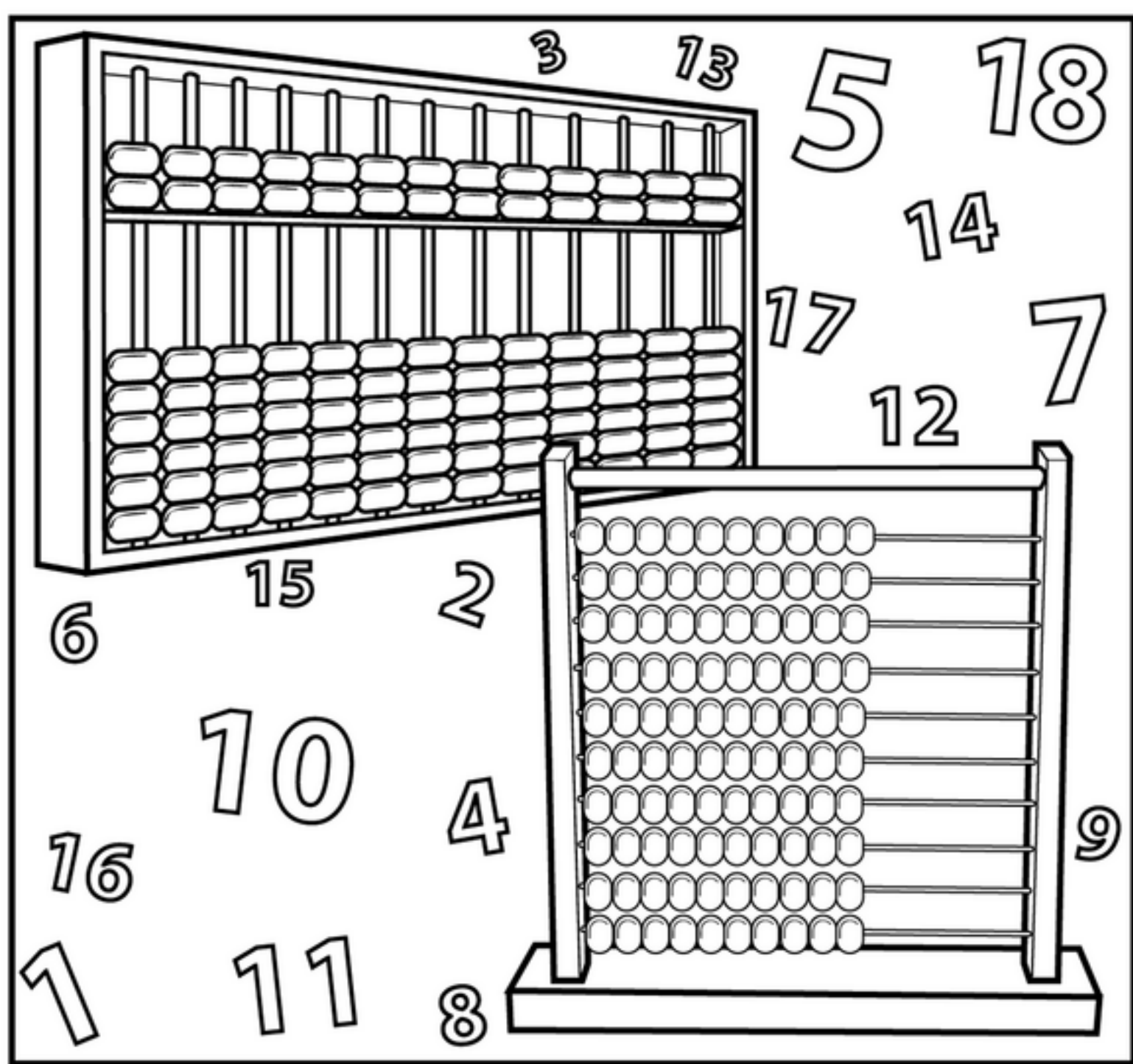
How did people keep track of things to get the right amount?

Ancient people used their fingers and, if they needed to, their toes to keep track of smaller numbers, but after that, who knows?



Some evidence has been found that tally marks were  
used,  
But perhaps after counting to a hundred they began to  
get confused.  
Perhaps people used counting stones or put pebbles  
in a jar.  
We are so glad that mathematics today has come so  
very far.





The use of an abacus, also called a counting frame, was an ancient calculating tool that has achieved some fame.

People slid beads across a wire or a table made of sand, as mathematical calculations were always done by hand.



Early people created symbols for counting and for math calculations.

They created mathematic symbols used by their civilizations.

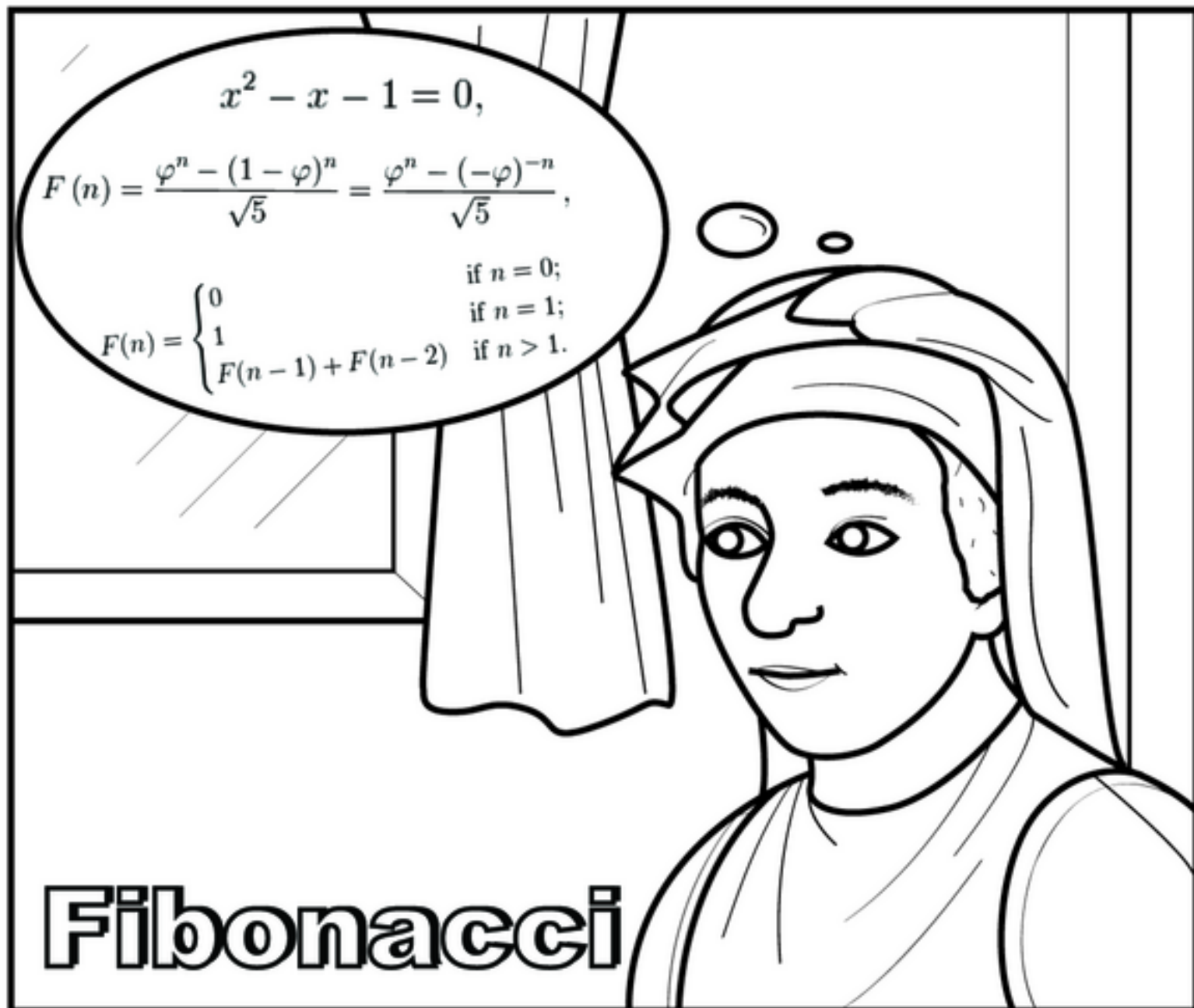
The early Greeks are credited with taking mathematics to a new height when they realized that geometry helped them look at space and figures right.



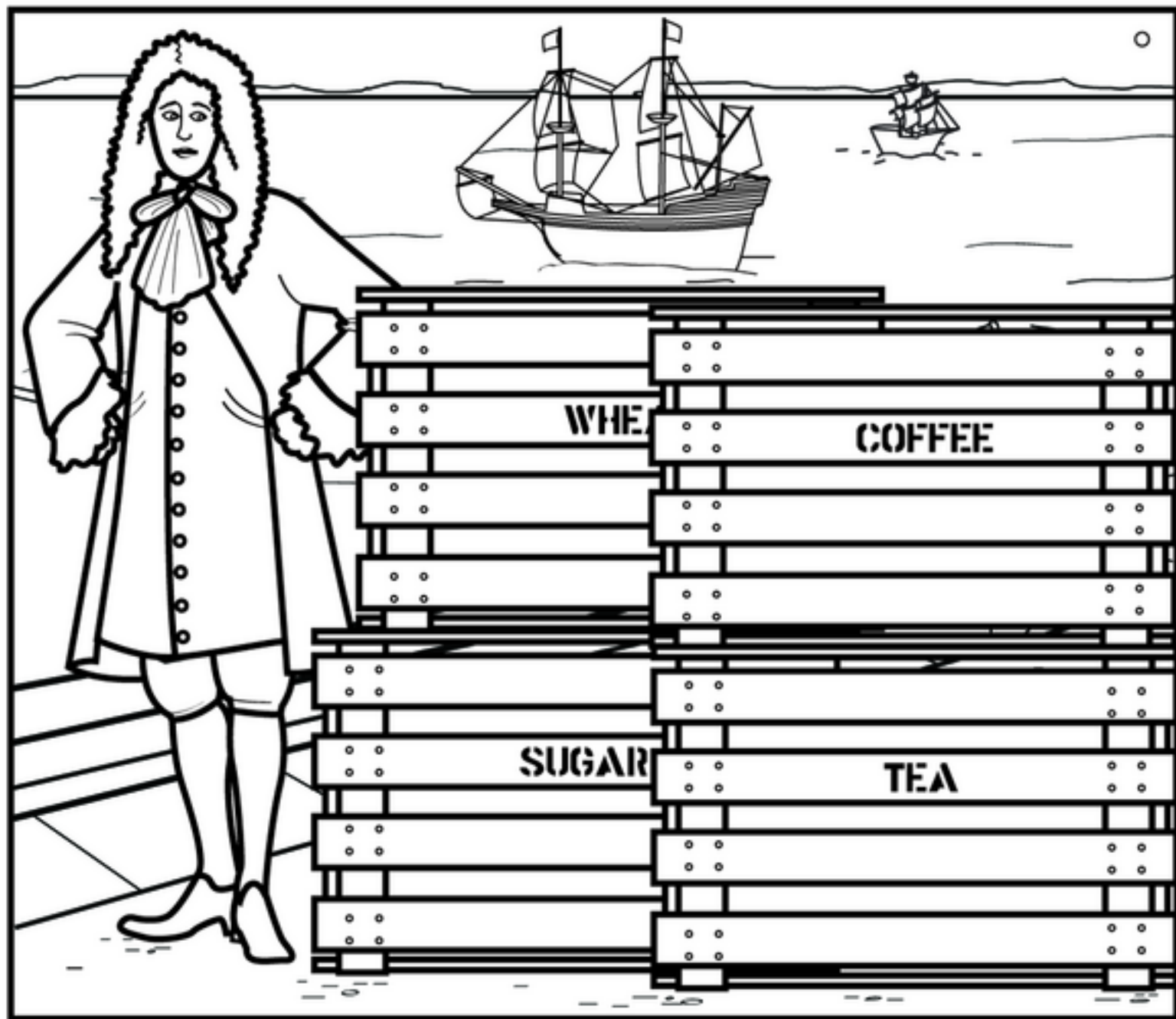
Greek mathematicians like Pythagoras and Archimedes studied math, and their ideas took mathematics down a new and different path.

During the Middle Ages after the Roman Empire fell, the Arabs made contributions to mathematics, and they did it well.





The Arabic number system, which most people use today, was expanded to include a zero, which came from India, by the way. Around 1100 A.D., interest in math was sparked anew, and the Fibonacci sequence was added as mathematical knowledge grew.



From 1400 to 1600, many advances in math were made.

New lands had been discovered and this created wider trade.

Improvements were necessary in math for banking and finance.

Then long multiplication was introduced, which helped math to advance.





In the years that followed, mathematical discoveries  
have been made.

New contributions in applied math and calculus are  
achievements that won't fade.

Calculators have changed mathematics, a fact that  
everybody knows,  
but nothing is as handy as counting on your fingers  
and your toes!

1. What was one of the earliest forms of counting?

- a. counting beans
- b. counting bones
- c. counting fingers and toes
- d. counting sheep

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

2. What was another name for the counting frame?

- a. the abracadabra
- b. the abacus
- c. the computer
- d. the calculator

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

3. Who was Pythagoras?

- a. an ancient mathematician
- b. an ancient animal
- c. an ancient ruler
- d. an ancient god

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

4. Where did the numerical concept of zero originally come from?

- a. Rome
- b. Greece
- c. India
- d. France

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

5. The Fibonacci sequence was added to mathematics knowledge when?
- a. around 1000 B.C.
  - b. around 1100 A.D.
  - c. around 1820 A.D.
  - d. around 1200 A.D.

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

6. What is still considered a handy tool to use for counting?
- a. crayons
  - b. spoons
  - c. buttons
  - d. fingers and toes

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_